**The Medallion Medal is the highest honor given to any MCPS student.**

**Decisions for who is the recipient for a Medallion Medal should not be taken lightly.**

**Medallion Selection Committee:**

Members on the selection committee should be staff members in primarily contact with seniors.

All staff and faculty who express interest to serve on the committee will be allowed the opportunity to serve; rotation may be necessary.

The qualifications criteria for a medallion recipient should be given to all counselors and staff so they have an understanding of what to look for in giving recommendations of students, and before serving on the committee.

The viewing of the individual school’s vision statement, beliefs, and motto should be completed prior to making a decision on serving on the committee and the selection of the recipients. This will help committee members make an informed decision if they want to serve and who is meets the criteria to be awarded this honor.

The committee should be comprised of a minimum of 5 staff members, but could be more.

The committee must represent a cross selection of staff and faculty from all areas in the school, such as science, math, English, performing arts, extracurricular activities, etc.

It is recommended that the committee write personalized form letters to each recipient describing the reason why the individual was chosen to receive the award. These will be handed to the student when they receive their medallion during the commencement ceremony.

MCPS will provide a statement describing what the award Medallion represents. This may be located on the MCPS website, printed in the graduation program and/or included with the awarded medallion.

**Criteria:**

There is no set number of Medallion members selected from a class. One year may be 20 or less, and the next year, 30 or more.

Senior student transcripts will be used as a reference.

* + Consideration will be given to :

GPA

Activities the student is involved in

Difficulty and diversity of course work

Amount of credits the student has attempted and earned academically

Awards earned in activities such as lettering, leadership appointments (HOBY)

Community involvement involving the school (Flagship and service programs)

**Selection process:**

Students who have transferred into the school must be enrolled into the school for 2 years to be considered for this award.

Previous activities from the transferred student’s past years will be taken into consideration.

Not all students receiving this honor will have earned a 4.0 GPA.

Students considered for this honor medallion must demonstrate 2 or more attributes from the following:

* + Scholarship
  + Leadership
  + Service programs such as: DECA, Student Government, Key Club, Special Olympics.
  + Sports and Activities
  + Performing Arts programs
  + Literary programs , such as schools newspaper, magazine, yearbooks
  + Extracurricular academics programs such as: Robotics, languages clubs, Speech and Debate, FFA.
  + Perseverance and creative problem solving
  + Overcoming Personal Adversity
  + Critical Thinking
  + Communication and Collaboration with peers and school administration
  + Independence and Self-Reliance
  + strength of character

Students considered may have a lower GPA, but have involved themselves in the school through clubs, sports, service and pushed themselves by taking challenging classes in academic areas.

Students may be considered that only have the basic class requirements such as in Arts, but are heavy in math/science credits or vice versa, but have many other outstanding achievements.

Students will not be denied this honor for not taking a specific math, science or elective course. Students cannot be penalized for not taking a specific teacher’s class or course.

Students who are in a special education program should be considered for this honor using the criteria listed above. Students in special education cannot be excluded based on their enrollment in special education.

Students should embody the all-around school experience and the individual school’s vision and belief statement.

Recommendation of students will be taken from all staff.